

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 024222
ORIGIN OES-07

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEA-10 /018 R

DRAFTED BY OES/APT/BMP:ASCHAPMAN:MFC
APPROVED BY OES/APT:OHGANLEY
NEA/EGY:KHONAN (PHONE)

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P 301952Z JAN 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO PRIORITY

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STADIS////////////////////////////////

E.O. 11652:

TAGS: USEGJC, TGEN, TECH

SUBJECT: FEB. 11-12 MEETING OF JWGTRD

REF: CAIRO 02377

1. DEPARTMENT WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY'S CANDID OPINION ON ISSUES UNDER GENERAL HEADING OF QUOTE POLICY END QUOTE, COORDINATION AND ADMINISTRATION MENTIONED IN PARA 6 OF REF-TEL THAT EGYPTIAN SIDE IS LIKELY TO BRING UP. ACCORDING TO DOYON OF NSF, MINISTER BADRAN WANTS TO HAVE AN OFFICE OR SECRETARIAT FOR THE JWGTRD ESTABLISHED IN CAIRO TO CARRY ON FACILITATIVE ACTIVITIES BETWEEN MEETINGS. WE UNDERSTAND THAT SOME MONTHS AGO MINISTER BADRAN OFFERED TO PROVIDE SPACE FOR SUCH AN OFFICE IF AID WOULD PROVIDE THE FUNDS TO OPERATE IT, INCLUDING SALARIES FOR STAFF. WHAT IS THE STATUS OF THIS MATTER AND WHAT IS THE EMBASSY'S
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VIEW AS TO THE NEED FOR SUCH AN OFFICE? IS THIS THE ONLY ISSUE UNDER THE GENERAL HEADING OF POLICY, COORDINATION AND ADMINISTRATION THAT IS LIKELY TO COME UP?

2. DEPARTMENT WOULD ALSO LIKE TO HAVE EMBASSY'S BEST ESTIMATE OF EGYPTIAN REACTION TO A TENTATIVE NSF PROPOSAL THAT A SOMEWHAT LARGER PROPORTION OF JWGTRD ACTIVITY BE

SHIFTED FROM PROJECTS OF QUOTE NON-SCIENTIFIC BENEFIT TO

THE U.S., SUCH AS SCIENCE EDUCATION AND TECHNOLOGY TRANS-
FER END QUOTE TO OTHERS OF QUOTE SCIENTIFIC BENEFIT TO THE
U.S., SUCH AS GEOLOGY, ECOLOGY, NATURAL PRODUCTS, AND ARID
LANDS. END QUOTE.

3. ANSWERS TO THESE QUESTIONS WOULD BE APPRECIATED
SOONEST SO THAT POSITION PAPERS FOR JWGTRD MEETING CAN BE
FINALIZED. VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEETINGS, PERSONNEL ASSIGNMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 jan 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE024222
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: ASCHAPMAN:MFC
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780044-0873
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t1978017/aaaaafkm.tel
Line Count: 72
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 443cfce3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN OES
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: STADIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: STADIS
Reference: 78 CAIRO 2377
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3784004
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FEB. 11-12 MEETING OF JWGTRD
TAGS: TGEN, TECH, USEGJC
To: CAIRO
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/443cfce3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014